

Weekly Status and Information Report: Week of October 23 - October 27, 2006

Takoma Metro Update:

The City of Takoma Park has submitted additional information to WMATA regarding the proposal to relocate bus bays, reduce the size of the parking lot and make other transit facility changes at the Takoma Metro. Detailed information on the proposal and the City's position is on the City's web site, www.takomaparkmd.gov, including a video of the WMATA's October 11 public hearing.

An appraisal commissioned by Takoma Park found that the market value of the property is \$10,350,000, while the sales price for EYA, the townhouse developer, is \$9,300,000. From this lower amount, EYA will deduct the cost of transit facility changes which will be well over \$7 million. If the plan is approved, WMATA and the Takoma community will lose in three ways: 1) transit access at the station will be reduced, 2) WMATA will not make a reasonable profit on the sale of land and could very well lose money on the transaction, and 3) WMATA's future revenue from the station will be constrained given the need for higher operating costs and by having potential riders precluded from using the station.

For more information, contact Suzanne Ludlow at 301-891-7229 or SuzanneL@takomagov.org. (*Community and Government Liaison*)

Halloween Events: Takoma Park Recreation Department is holding its annual Halloween Events. Join us for the Canine Costume Contest, co-sponsored by the Big Bad Woof, at 3 PM, located at the parking lot behind the Bank of America on Carroll Ave. The popular Costume Contest begins at 5 PM at the corner of Carroll Ave and Laurel Ave. The Parade follows the contest at the same site at approximately 5:45. The evening's festivities end at the always exciting Halloween Bash with the Dixie Power Trio located in the multi-purpose room of Piney Branch Elementary. City TV staff will be covering the activities. See you there! (*Recreation*)

Chesapeake Bay Partner Certification: The City has been recertified as a GOLD level Bay Partner in the Chesapeake Bay Partner Community Awards Program. As part of the award, the City will receive a road sign for display. This award reflects the leadership and dedication to restoring and protecting natural resources within the City. Takoma Park was first designated a GOLD member in 1999. The selection is based on benchmarks met in four categories: improving water quality, promoting sound land use, protecting and restoring living resources and habitat, and engaging the community. The City will continue working and partnering with various organizations in order to make Takoma Park more environmentally friendly. We need to think about where our new road sign will be placed. (*City Engineer*)

CSAFE: Mary Kendall and Gretchen Hilburger attended the multi-jurisdictional pedestrian safety meeting, during which they presented the results of the Oct. 4 Pedestrian Safety Activity. Mary Kendall met with the MCPD Hispanic Media Relations Specialist to discuss future collaborative initiatives in the CSAFE area. Today at 4:00 PM the CSAFE area Joint Roll Call will be held at the Takoma Park Recreation Center on New Hampshire Avenue. (*Police*)

Acting Police Chief Meetings: Meetings attended by A/Chief Coursey this week included: CSAFE Oversight Committee quarterly meeting, Public Safety CAC monthly meeting, Emergency Preparedness Committee monthly meeting, MW COG Police Chief's Committee monthly meeting, NCR LInX Board monthly meeting, and a community meeting of residents from the Jefferson, Lincoln and Carroll Avenue neighborhood, concerning issues in and around their area. The attached statistical tables were distributed at this meeting. *(Police)*

New Officers: In addition to Cadets Jordan and Robinson who started the University of Maryland Police Academy on Monday October 23rd, Private Keith Hubley, an experienced officer from Chevy Chase Village, will join the department on Monday October 30th, with a swearing in to be conducted at a later time. This cuts the number of sworn vacancies in the department to three. Recruitment efforts actively continue, and the department seeks to hire qualified applicants, with women, minorities and Spanish speaking individuals highly desired. *(Police)*

Officers in Training: Officers Barber, Mueller, Pedersen and Quante as well as Mary Kendall and Gretchen Hilburger attended a four-hour training session on "Criminal Street Gangs." Officers Collins and Eckford attended a three day training on becoming a Field Training Officer. Cpl. Smith and Pfc. Mueller attended Peer Support Incident Stress Management Training at the University of Maryland Shady Grove Campus. *(Police)*

Halloween Parade Operations Planning: Sgt Gilbert completed the final operations plan in support of the Recreation Department's Halloween Parade scheduled for October 28. *(Police)*

Traffic Enforcement (Wards 2, 3, 4, and 6): Officers conducted at least 69 traffic stops this week, 53 of which ended in written citations. More than half of the stops were made on Maple, New Hampshire, and Poplar Avenues. *(Police)*

Police Activity: Joint efforts by Patrol and CID resulted in removing two handguns from criminal possession on the street in two separate incidents. Arrests and charges are pending against the suspects in these incidents. *(Police)*

On October 25, a Montgomery County jury found a Takoma Park man guilty of 1st degree assault and weapons charges stemming from a March 26 stabbing incident. Warrants were also obtained for two additional males involved in this incident. Detectives also executed three fugitive extraditions from the District of Columbia to Montgomery County related to arrest warrants previously obtained by this agency. *(Police)*

Afternoon Addition: On Tuesday, the Afternoon Addition was entertained by Ellouise Schottler's ear popping storytelling. She delighted the group with stories of fall and Halloween. *(Recreation)*

Soccer Clinic: The Outdoor Soccer Clinic wrapped up this week. By all accounts, it was a smashing success. Thirteen 1st and 2nd graders participated and actually learned how to play the game while still having fun. Everyone is looking forward to the spring clinic. We can't wait! *(Recreation)*

Artists Reception (City-wide): The work of Katie Dell Kaufman's drawing and watercolor students (ages 11-14) will be celebrated this Sunday, October 29th from 2:00 to 5:00 pm in the Atrium lobby at the Takoma Park Community Center. The students work is on display in the Atrium Gallery through the end of the month. *(Housing and Community Development)*

IMPACT, Silver Spring Meets in Takoma Park (City-wide): On Tuesday, October 24th, IMPACT, Silver Spring, a local non-profit community empowering organization held a meeting at the Takoma Park Community Center. Approximately 20 tenants from Silver Spring and Takoma Park attended the meeting to participate in a discussion on "Opening New Doors" and "Building Strong Rental Communities." Staff from the Montgomery County and Takoma Park Offices on Landlord-Tenant Affairs were present to answer questions as they arose. The group hopes that this meeting will be a catalyst for getting together in the future to discuss ways they can work to create more affordable housing in Montgomery County. Forming tenant associations that would impact state, county and city legislation was one of the topics discussed. For further information about IMPACT, Silver Spring, call 301.495.3336. For information on how to form a tenant's association in Takoma Park, call 301.891.7222. *(Housing and Community Development)*

Vote for Art (City-wide): The Takoma Park Arts & Humanities Commission is asking for the donation of used political lawn signs for a Spring 2007 Public Art Project. All types and sizes of are being accepted. The signs are being collected as part of the Commission's Spring "Vote For Art" Public Art Project. The donated signs will be white washed and the public will be invited to create a "new" campaign sign promoting a cause significant to them. Art supplies will be provided. All of the final designs will be unveiled on neighborhood lawns throughout the city of Takoma Park on Arts Advocacy Day, March 13, 2007. The project's goal is to bring attention to the creativity of Takoma Park as well highlight the importance of supporting arts and arts education programs in the public schools. For more information contact Sara Daines at 301-891-7224 or by email at AHC@takomagov.org. *(Housing and Community Development)*

Main Street Takoma Facade Grant Seminar (Ward 1): City staff attended the Facade Grant Seminar hosted on Friday morning by the Design Committee of Main Street Takoma. The Seminar was well attended by merchants and property owners. They were provided with information about grants to improve facades of properties in the Main Street program area from the State of Maryland. Participants learned about the application process and requirements from Maryland Main Street officers as well as about other funding opportunities including Neighborhood Business Works and Capital Assets, both of which provide loans to small businesses in Maryland. *(Housing and Community Development)*

OTRA Meeting (Ward 1): City staff attended the OTRA meeting Thursday evening to show residents the Carroll Avenue Streetscape Plan - Phase II in the commercial area and answer questions about the design and construction process. *(Housing and Community Development)*

Carroll Avenue Streetscape Project - Phase II (Ward 1 and 3): We have learned that the Board of Public Works (BPW) has elected to defer any action on our request for the reprogramming of our 2004 Community Legacy funds for the Carroll Avenue project until December. Their approval is the final action that must be taken before we can proceed

with the project. Given the delay, it is unlikely construction would begin until this Spring. More details will be available in December following the BPW meeting. *(Housing and Community Development)*

Open Studio Tour and Holiday Art Sale (City-wide): The Arts and Humanities Commission, in partnership with ASalon, are soliciting local artists for its Saturday, December 16 studio tour and holiday art sale. If you are interested in participating in the event and would like to open your studio for the tour or show your work at the Community Center, please contact the AHC at 301.891.7224 or by email at ahc@takomagov.org. Registrations are due Monday, November 20. *(Housing and Community Development)*

November Newsletter: The November newsletter has been delivered to the post office and should be in residents' homes in the next few days. It is also on the City web site. *(Communications)*

Action in Montgomery in Area Neighborhoods: The inter-faith organization Action in Montgomery will be knocking on doors in the Takoma Park area Sunday, October 29 and in future weeks asking residents about issues that face them. The goal is to help the organization determine issues the group should be addressing. The group's efforts to date have focused on affordable housing and in getting a local immigration office established so that persons do not have to travel to Baltimore for those services. *(Community and Government Liaison)*

William Sector Street Crime - September and October*

Year	Auto Theft	Burglary	Assault	Robbery
2005	6 (+ 3 Attempts)	5	0	4
2006	7	3	1	2

Auth: Capt. Ed Coursey, A/ Chief of Police, 10/26/06

* Unofficial Data taken from active information within TPPD's records management system, prior to all final reviews.

TAKOMA PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

CRIME COMPARISONS

THIRD QUARTER: 2004, 2005, 2006

CRIME	Jul 04	Jul 05	Jul 06	Aug 04	Aug 05	Aug 06	Sep04	Sep05	Sep06	3rd Quarter Totals		
										2004	2005	2006
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Rape	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Robbery	7	8	8	3	8	4	7	5	7	17	21	19
Agg. Asslt*	1	0	0	1	2	2	5	0	2	7	2	4
Burglary	10	9	11	15	18	8	6	12	24	31	39	43
Larceny	45	38	31	34	52	44	36	35	33	115	125	108
Auto Theft	14	18	8	18	28	12	17	13	13	49	59	33
TOTALS	77	74	58	71	108	71	71	65	80	219	247	209

Simple Asslt	7	5	7	7	6	7	7	9	10	21	20	24
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*Only aggravated assaults are included in the totals given, used for UCR purposes, but TPPD also tracks statistics on the simple (or misdemeanor) Assaults

Prepared By: A/Lt. Tyrone Collington, ID/#327

Date: October 25, 2006

(Crime Category Definitions Below)

Crime Index Explained

1. The Crime Index is a nationwide, cooperative program to assess the nature and type of crime in the nation. Seven categories of crime were identified and have been used since 1930 to present a reliable set of criminal statistics. An eighth category, arson, was added in 1979 but is not represented in this report.

Personal or "Violent" Index Crimes involve force or threat of force, generally considered crimes against persons.

Murder and non-negligent manslaughter: willful, non-negligent killing of one human being by another, based on police investigation rather than court, medical examiner or judicial body

Rape: carnal knowledge of a woman, forcible and against her will, including assault and attempt to commit rape by force or threat of force; statutory rape not included

Robbery: taking or attempting to take anything of value from a person by force or threat of force

Aggravated assault: unlawful attack by one person on another for the purpose of inflicting bodily injury, usually involving a weapon.

Property Index Crimes are offenses dealing with property, committed without force or threat of force.

Burglary: is the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft; it includes three subcategories of forcible entry, unlawful entry where no force is used, and attempted forcible entry.

Larceny-theft: the unlawful taking of property from the possession of another (including shoplifting, pocket-picking, purse-snatching, bicycles thefts) in which no force, violence or fraud is used. Embezzlement, forgery, and confidence games are not included.

Motor Vehicle Theft: includes stealing of automobiles, buses, motorcycles, etc, or attempted theft.

Arson: willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, a house, public building, motor vehicle or personal property of another; an investigation must determine the fires were willfully set.

Crime in the United States, published annually by the FBI, contains more complete information on these definitions and national statistics. It can be found in the Reference Section of the City Library.